

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control 3323

Date April 7, 1952

3:23 p.m.

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FROM: London

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 4465, April 7, 3 p.m.

1. CIA RR MP-88.

MP-88 of April 2, 1952 says Soviet synthetic rubber production will be 197,000 tons for year beginning July 1, 1952. NIE-40 of Nov 20, 1951 estimates 1951 production at 172,000 tons. Soviet affairs, OIR Report No 4800.27 of March 1951 says production was between 220,000 tons and 270,000 tons in 1950. Can anything be done to reconcile these statements?

2. CIA paper contains footnote on P. 1, stating that USSR had accumulated surplus of natural rubber of 150,000 tons by end 1949. Source cited is J. I. B. ref 3/96 of Sept 20, 1950, which in fact says USSR had accumulated unconsumed stocks of rubber above normal of nearly 150,000 tons, and that if this is all natural rubber it would be equivalent to about two years import requirements. Intelligence studies which do not (rpt not) cite sources correctly can be rather misleading.

3. Intelligence data furnished Armstrong also inadequate in other respects and almost useless in any negot. Is it better to admit we know little and have deduced less about Soviet rubber position?

GIFFORD

AB:EW

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2010
DATE: 10/10/52

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